

# MISSILES INQUIRY WILL OPEN TODAY; TO HEAR TELLER

Senate Democrats Declare  
Hearing Is Nonpartisan  
—Seek New Course

G. O. P. BLAMES TRUMAN

Says Lag Began in Previous  
Administration—Stennis  
Lays Delay to President

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 24—Senate missile investigators are ready to launch their "nonpartisan inquiry" into the lagging defense program in the face of a Republican political offensive designed to pin the delays on the Truman Administration.

The Senate Preparedness subcommittee is scheduled to start work tomorrow. A day and a half of public hearings will be followed by a day and a half of closed hearings.

Dr. Edward Teller, "father of the hydrogen bomb"; Neil H. McElroy, Secretary of Defense; Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and members of the armed services in charge of missiles are among those scheduled to testify. A second series of hearings will be held Dec. 13 through Dec. 17.

To Seek No-Scapegoats

The hearings will be conducted by the subcommittee chairman, Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Texas Democrat and majority leader, and the chief counsel, Edwin L. Weiss, a New York corporation lawyer.

They have declared that the hearings should be nonpartisan and nonpolitical, designed not to find scapegoats but rather to chart a course without seeking political advantage.

There were indications today that this might be no more than a fond hope that would collapse as both parties seek to absolve themselves for permitting the United States to fall behind the Soviet.

In a "special defense issue" of its house-organ Straight From the Shoulder the Republican National Committee took

the offensive today. It attempted to show that the Democrats under President Truman had brought United States military power to a "dangerously low level."

Points to Congress Vote

The publication's lead article, entitled "National Defense: The Democrat Record," asserted that "a few short months ago" Democrats in Congress were complaining that the Eisenhower Administration had been "too lavish" in defense spending.

It said they had voted down an Administration compromise request for \$313,000,000 more than the House Appropriations Committee had approved in the Defense Department appropriations bill.

"Now," the Republican article said, "they are calling for cash programs which would cost many times more than the \$313,000,000 which they refused a few months ago."

"While condemning the Eisenhower Administration one day for doing too much and the next day for doing too little they prefer to forget that it was they who reduced our military power to a dangerously low level by imposing cut-backs which affected every branch of the armed forces between 1944 and 1950."

Cites President's Reputation

Senator John Stennis, Democrat of Mississippi, a member of the Preparedness subcommittee, meanwhile indicated the line Democrats might take. He said that he hoped the hearings would "point out where the responsibility is—right where the power is, with the President."

Senator Stennis, in a televised interview on the American Broadcasting Company, said Congress had been "a little too ready" to accept Administration assurances that the missile program was proceeding satisfactorily. He said the President's reputation as a military leader was "a powerful factor" in Congress' attitude.

He said he thought the President's power over the entire program would have to be delegated to someone, and he hoped to find out whether it now rested with Dr. James R. Killian Jr., recently named scientific adviser to the President.

Senator Ralph E. Flanders of

Vermont, a Republican member of the subcommittee, stated elsewhere that the President should couple a speed-up missile production with a comprehensive plan for world disarmament.

He said the Soviet should be not not allowed to gain a propaganda advantage with neutral nations "by being able to say that we are tossing overboard all plans for future disarmament in our haste to produce missiles of all kinds."

In addition to Dr. Teller, the subcommittee's lead-off witnesses tomorrow will include Dr. Vannevar Bush, former scientific consultant to the Government; Dr. John Chipman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Dr. John F. Haggen, director of the Navy's Vanguard satellite project. Testimony taken in closed session later in the week will be released for publication after it has been edited for security.

On the House side of the Capitol, House Republican leader Joseph W. Martin Jr. of Massachusetts suggested that the Federal Government pay for the education each year of the top five science students in each Congressional district.

He said the students could be selected by competitive examinations at the high school and junior college levels. They would be assigned to accredited scientific universities and research institutions.

Representative Martin said he would introduce a bill to establish

that "the very small cost involved would be more than justified by the results."

The House Government Operations Committee reported that it was canvassing Government departments on how much they had spent on research since 1949. The committee said it plans to hold hearings soon on whether research had been hurt by duplication, waste and overhead.

Also in the House six Democratic members in a letter to the President endorsed the Democratic Advisory Council's recent statement urging him to develop a "greater sense of urgency" about the missile program.

The six called for a strengthening of conventional defenses of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and appealed for a new attempt to talk to Soviet leaders.

Representatives who signed the letter were Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota, Metcalf of Montana, Henry S. Reuss of Wisconsin, George M. Rhodes of Pennsylvania, James Roosevelt of California and Frank Thompson Jr. of New Jersey.

Teller Sees Great Loss

Dr. Teller, said yesterday that the United States had lost "a battle more important and greater than Pearl Harbor" in lagging behind the Soviet in science.

Dr. Teller described the situation as "very sad and dangerous" and said he did not know how long it would take the United States to catch up with the Russians in science. "Most people do not understand how serious the situation really is," he declared.

Building prestige for science in the United States "will be a

long and hard struggle and I do not know how we shall accomplish it," Dr. Teller said. He spoke on "See It Now," a filmed television program on the Columbia Broadcasting System.

In a democratic society, he said, "Everything is done with the understanding of the people," so American science must win the support of the people before it can be respected here as it is in the Soviet Union.

"You can not have good football without a lot of football fans," he said. "You can not have good science without a lot of science fans."

He predicted that the nation with the best scientists would control the future.